CLAIMS

I/We claim:

1. A drywall tool comprising:

a body having a drywall compound distributing surface, a rear surface, a recess adapted to pivotably receive a rounded connector of a handle, and an orifice providing a fluid path from the recess to the distributing surface;

a retainer carried by the body and adapted to releasably retain the rounded connector in the recess in the body, the retainer comprising:

a first rotatable member that is disposed in a first position relative to the recess and that is rotatable about a first axis from a closed position to an open position, the first rotatable member having a non-uniform circumference with respect to the first axis such that a surface of the first rotatable member is spaced farther from an axis of the recess when in its open position than when in its closed position; and

a second rotatable member that is disposed in a second position relative to the recess and that is rotatable about a second axis from a closed position to an open position, the second rotatable member having a non-uniform circumference with respect to the second axis such that a surface of the second rotatable member is spaced farther from the axis of the recess when in its open position than when in its closed position, the first and second positions being angularly spaced from one another about the recess axis.

2. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the body comprises a body of a drywall corner finisher.

3. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the surface of the first rotatable member is spaced from the surface of the second rotatable member a first distance when the first and second rotatable members are in their respective closed positions and a second distance, which is greater than the first distance, when the first and second rotatable members are in their respective open positions.

4. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the first and second rotatable members are positioned generally diametrically opposite one another across the recess.

5. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the first rotatable member is biased toward the closed position.

6. The drywall tool of claim 1 further comprising a spring that biases the first rotatable member toward its closed position.

7. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the first and second rotatable members are each biased toward their respective closed positions.

8. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the first and second rotatable members are manually moveable against a biasing force from their respective closed positions to their respective open positions.

9. The drywall tool of claim 1 further comprising a handle having a rotatable connector sized to be received in the recess in the body, the handle being adapted to deliver a fluid to the orifice in the body via the rotatable connector.

10. The drywall tool of claim 1 wherein the first and second rotatable members are independently rotatable about their respective axes.

11. A manually operable tool, comprising:

a body having a recess and an orifice in communication with the recess, the orifice defining a fluid path for a process fluid;

a handle having a ball, the ball being pivotably received in recess and being adapted to deliver the process fluid therethrough; and

a retainer carried by the body, the retainer comprising:

a first rod pivotable about a first axis and includes a first abutting surface and a first recessed surface arranged on a circumference of the first rod, the first recessed surface having a minimum distance from the first axis that is less than a minimum distance from the first abutting surface to the first axis; and

a second rod pivotable about a second axis and includes a second abutting surface and a second recessed surface arranged on a circumference of the second rod, the second recessed surface having a minimum distance from the second axis that is less than a minimum distance from the second abutting surface to the second axis;

the first and second rods being positioned with respect to one another such that a first distance between the first and second abutting surfaces is less than a dimension of the ball when the first and second rods are in a first relative orientation, thereby retaining the ball in the recess, and a second distance between the first and second recessed surfaces is greater than the dimension of the ball when the first and second rods are in a second relative orientation, thereby permitting the ball to be removed from the recess.

12. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the body comprises a body of a drywall corner finisher.

13. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the surface of the first rotatable member is spaced from the surface of the second rotatable member a first distance when the first and second rotatable members are in their respective closed positions and a second distance, which is greater than the first distance, when the first and second rotatable members are in their respective open positions.

14. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the first and second rods are positioned generally diametrically opposite one another across the recess.

15. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the recessed surface of the first rod comprises an elongate concavity extending along a length of the surface of the first rod.

16. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the first rod member is biased toward a position wherein the abutting surface is positioned to engage the ball.

17. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the first and second rods are manually moveable against a biasing force from the first relative orientation to the second relative orientation.

18. The drywall tool of claim 11 wherein the first and second rods are biased toward the first relative orientation.

19. A method of finishing a drywall joint, comprising:

moving a handle to move a finishing tool along the drywall joint, the handle being attached to the finishing tool by a ball joint in which the handle carries a ball and the finishing tool includes a recess that pivotably receives the ball and a retainer adapted to retain the ball in the recess;

detaching the handle from the finishing tool by rotating at least one retaining member of the retainer about an axis oriented tangentially to an axis of the recess from a first position to a second position, the retaining member in its first position having an abutting surface positioned to limit movement of the ball away from the recess and the retaining member in its second position having a recessed surface spaced from the axis of the recess a distance sufficient to allow the ball to be removed from the recess.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising delivering a drywall compound to the drywall joint through the ball and the finishing tool.